

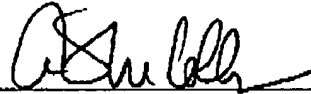
## REMARKS

Claims 1-43 are pending in the application. Claims 9-16, 20-27, and 31-43 were cancelled by preliminary amendment on October 1, 2003. Claims 1-8, 17-19, and 28-30 have been withdrawn. New claims 44-72 have been added. New claims 44-72 replace the claims cancelled by preliminary amendment, and amend the mistaken use of *crucible* (original claims 26, 27, and 41; new claims 58, 59, and 70). These claims depend from method claims and should have used the word *method* when originally filed. In view of the foregoing, applicant hereby elects those claims drawn to a method for making a silica glass crucible, without traverse, i.e., new claims 44-72.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,

MARGER JOHNSON &  
McCOLLOM, PC



Alan T. McCollom  
Registration No. 28,881

210 SW Morrison Street, Suite 400  
Portland, OR 97204  
(503) 222-3613

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